

Why CASTLE?

CASTLE is a project financed under the Interreg IVC born to answer the regional needs to improve public policies in transport and logistics with a specific target on SMEs.

The CASTLE objectives and ratio are rooted in past research & study activities on the status and perspectives of logistics at regional level in the EU, which elected SMEs logistics networking and innovation as a priority intervention area for public policies.

CASTLE started in November 2008 and it will end in October 2011, with a total duration of 36 months. It involved ten partners in Italy, Poland, Greece, Slovenia, Spain, Germany, Hungary & Austria.

CASTLE creates an operational matrix of best practices & experiences exchange for the development of public policies, of which the CASTLE partners are responsible, for SMEs logistics in order to:

- promote SMEs innovation and competitiveness;
- shorten the divide between transport & logistics effectiveness versus environmental protection & energy saving in a win-win policy approach (regional merging of the Lisbon and Gothenburg agendas).

CASTLE improves policy making through the surveying, analysis, exchange & transfer of best practices, the creation of a new regional policy tool usable by policy makers to formulate policies and assess their efficiency, and joint partners' policy making exercises with the creation of a EU Transfer Forum among policy makers. These activities are also triggered on a bottom-up approach in terms of logistics governance consolidation, thanks to the set up of Regional Forums on Logistics and Logistics Competence Centres, which bring SMEs logistics needs to policy makers on the base of the triple-helix principle.

Policy Learning Goals

CASTLE's "policy-learning" matches more & less experienced regions and improves policy making and policy makers' skills on 4 fundamental innovation topics:

1. strengthening the logistics supply & the logistics industry, in particular in terms of policies for the integration, networking, clustering of transport and logistics SMEs to strengthen their market position.
2. improving the logistics demand in the production systems (industrial areas & clusters), in particular in

terms of policies for the vertical integration of SMEs in the procurement and distribution chains, for the horizontal cooperation among SMEs in industrial areas and clusters (pooling of transport demand, joint logistics planning, logistics buying consortia), for the logistics demand-supply matching and for the logistics outsourcing.

3. strengthening logistics training for SMEs systems, in particular in terms policies for the matching of training courses and SMEs training needs by networking SMEs, public governments and training agencies/bodies, policies for the setting of standards and harmonised jobs in logistics & in the relevant curricula, policies for the replication of best practices through publicly financed relevant training to SMEs and policies for enriching the logistics skills in SMEs.
4. institutional & governance consolidation in logistics, public-private cooperation in policies set up, in particular by creating Regional Forums on Logistics, as new governance mechanisms to generate policies improvements thanks to the inclusion of the needs of the regional logistics and industrial communities into the public policies and by setting up Regional Logistics Competence Centres, as new institutional private-public bodies to support policy making.

Project Approach

- Step 1: Identifying and systematising best practices in SMEs logistics (through networking and cooperation of SMEs in logistics management) in each of the 8 involved regions.
- Step 2: Logistics Competence Centres (LoCC) model transfer activities through counselling to EU regions and site visits.
- Step 3: European knowledge transfer for SMEs logistics policy development (in the fields of logistics demand, supply, logistics training for SMEs).
- Step 4: Regional knowledge transfer (training the policy makers and fitting best practices to regional contexts) and set up of Forums on Logistics as instruments for policy making improving.
- Step 5: Joint surveying of the EU status of policies and SMEs practices, also outside the partnership.
- Step 6: Setting up of joint policy making guidelines in logistics for SMEs and LoCCs development.

CASTLE Partnership



Institute for Transport and Logistics Foundation (ITL)
LEAD PARTNER
Fondazione Istituto sui Trasporti e la Logistica
Viale A. Moro, 38 - 40127 Bologna (ITALY)
Rino Rosini +39 051 28 3831
rosini@regione.emilia-romagna.it



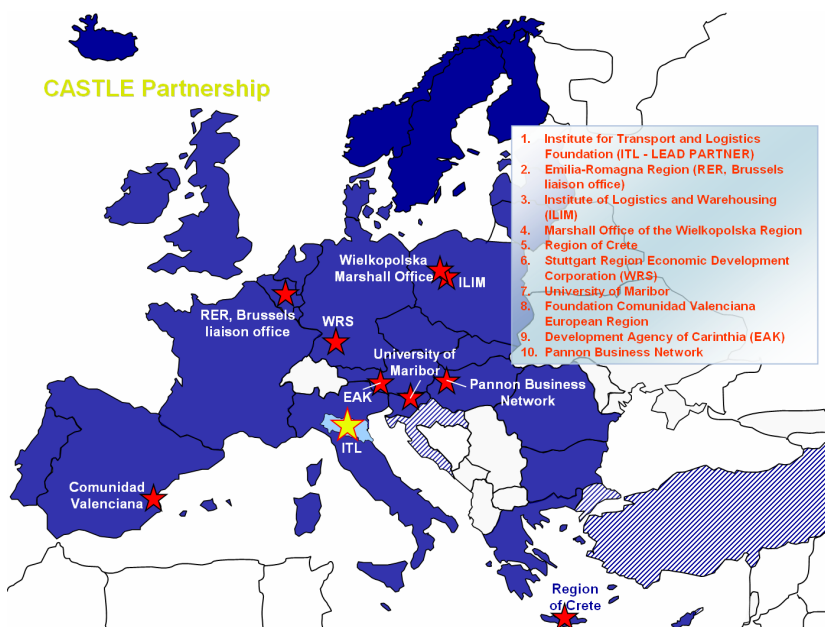
Stuttgart Region Economic Development Corporation (WRS)
Wirtschaftsförderung Region Stuttgart GmbH
Friedrichstrasse, 10 - 70174 Stuttgart (GERMANY)
Holger Bach +49 711 2283 559
holger_bach@region-stuttgart.de



Emilia-Romagna Region, Brussels liaison office (RER)
Regione Emilia-Romagna, Servizio di collegamento con l'Unione Europea
Avenue de l'Yser, 19 - 1040 Bruxelles (BELGIUM)
Lorenza Badiello +32 2 732 3090
lbadiello@regione.emilia-romagna.it



University of Maribor, Faculty of Civil Engineering (UniMB)
Univerza v Mariboru, Fakulteta za gradbeništvo
Smetanova, 17 - 2000 Maribor (SLOVENIA)
Stane Božičnik +386 2 22 94 311
stane.bozicnik@uni-mb.si



Institut Logistyki
i Magazynowania

Institute of Logistics and Warehousing (ILIM)
Instytut Logistyki i Magazynowania
ul. Estkowskiego, 6 - 61-755 Poznań (POLAND)
Piotr Nowak +48 61 850 49 36
piotr.nowak@ilim.poznan.pl



Fundación Comunidad Valenciana European Region (FCVRE)
Fundación Comunidad Valenciana Región Europea
Plaza Manises, 1 - 46003 Valencia (SPAIN)
Juan Manuel Revuelta Pérez +34 96 386 90 18
jrevuelta@delcomval.be



Marshall Office of the Wielkopolska Region (WMO)
Urząd Marszałkowski Województwa Wielkopolskiego
Al. Niepodległości, 18 - 61-713 Poznań (POLAND)
Karolina Atraszkiewicz +48 61 858 12 41 / 01
karolina.atraszkiewicz@umww.pl



Development Agency of Carinthia (EAK)
Entwicklungsagentur Kärnten GmbH
Primoschgasse, 3 - 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee (AUSTRIA)
Udo Tarmann +43 463 38 75 113
tarmann@entwicklungsagentur.at



Region of Crete (ROC)
Γενική Γραμματεία Περιφέρεια Κρήτης
Kountourioti Square - 71202 Heraklion (GREECE)
Konstantinos Strataridakis +30 2810 278 111
kstr@crete-region.gr



Pannon Business Network Association (PBN)
Pannon Gazdasági Hálózat Egyesület
Gesztenyefa u., 4 - 9027 Győr (HUNGARY)
Mátyás Lazár +36 96 506 935
lazary@pbn.hu

